

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 AID-05 EUR-08 SAM-01 SAB-01 EB-04

COME-00 OPIC-03 TRSE-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-01 INR-05 L-01 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /081 W
----- 104122

R 240912Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5496

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: ECRE EINV EWWT EG JA EAID

SUBJ: PRESS REPORTS JAPANESE FIRM GETS CONTRACT FOR WIDENING
SUEZ CANAL

RER: CAIRO 8188

1. AS REPORTED REFTTEL, JAPANESE PRESS OCT 15 REPORTED ANNOUNCEMENT BY PENTA OCEAN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY THAT IT HAD SIGNED QTE PROVISIONAL CONTRACT UNQTE WITH GOE SUEZ CANAL AUTHORITY FOR DREDGING AND EXPANSION OF CANAL OVER THREE AND HALF YEAR PERIOD BEGINNING AUTUMN 1975, AT COST OF YEN 50,600 MILLION (ABOUT 168 MILLION DOLLARS AT 300 YEN/DOLLAR). REPORTEDLY, FORMAL CONTRACT IS TO BE SIGNED IN NOV OR DEC. ACCORDING TO PRESS, CONTRACT, WHICH INVOLVES FIRST PHASE OF PROPOSED TWO PHASE EXPANSION OF CANAL, WILL ENTAIL DEEPENING CANAL FROM PRESENT 15 METERS TO 19 METERS AND BROADENING IT FROM 90 TO 160 METERS OVER THREE SECTIONS EXTENDING TOTAL OF 63.25 KILOMETERS. FOLLOWING THIS WORK, SHIPS UP TO 150,000 TONS WILL BE ABLE TO USE CANAL (VS PRESENT LIMIT OF 70,000 TONS).

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2. PENTA OCEAN OFFICIAL TOLD EMBASSY THAT PRESS REPORTS

WERE SUBSTANTIALLY ACCURATE EXCEPT FOR FOLLOWING POINT:
CANAL AUTHORITY DELIVERED QTE LETTER OF INTENT UNQTE
TO COMPANY, BUT NO CONTRACT HAS YET BEEN SIGNED.

3. FONOFF REP CONFIRMED LATTER POINT BUT ADDED THAT
EVEN THOUGH NO CONTRACT YET SIGNED, ISSUANCE OF LETTER
OF INTENT MEANS THAT GOE HAS DECIDED THAT PENTA OCEAN
WILL GET CONTRACT. FOLLOWING NEGOTIATION OF FINAL
DETAILS, CONTRACT IS EXPECTED TO BE SIGNED IN DECEMBER.
FOREIGN CURRENCY PORTION OF PROJECT COST IS TO BE COV-
ERED BY JAPANESE GOVERNMENT YEN LOAN EARLIER PROMISED
BY DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER MIKI, HE SAID.
HODGSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, CONSTRUCTION, CONTRACTS, SUEZ CANAL
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: shawdg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974TOKYO13858
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740303-1027
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741018/aaaaaozc.tel
Line Count: 74
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <31 JUL 2002 by martinml>; APPROVED <12 MAR 2003 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESS REPORTS JAPANESE FIRM GETS CONTRACT FOR WIDENING SUEZ CANAL
TAGS: ECRE, EINV, EWWT, EAID, EG, JA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005